

I CLAIM:

1.       A garbage can assembly comprising:  
          a garbage can having a bottom wall, a side wall extending upwardly from said bottom wall and an open top,  
          a lid having a top wall and a side wall extending downwardly from the top wall, the side wall being in removable telescoped engagement over portions of said side wall with garbage can in proximity to the open top, to close the garbage can,  
          a first snap lock mechanism provided on a first side of the lid and can and a second snap lock mechanism provided on a second side of the lid and can, each snap lock mechanism comprising a male snap buckle and a female snap buckle adapted to engage each other in a telescoping snap fit relationship and for release by manual squeezing of one of the male and female snap buckles, one of the male and female snap buckle of each snap lock mechanism coupled to the can and the other of the male and female snap buckle of each snap lock mechanism coupled to the lid.
2.       A garbage can assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein each of the male and female snap buckles are coupled to their respective can or lid via an elongate tether strap having two ends with a first end of the tether strap secured to its respective can or lid and a second end of the tether strap secured to one of the male or female snap buckles.
3.       A garbage can assembly as claimed in claim 1 including a single tether strap spanning across the top of the lid and having two ends, a first end connected to a male or female snap buckle of the first snap lock mechanism and the second end secured to a male and female snap buckle of the second snap lock mechanism.

4. A garbage can assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein the tether strap is secured to the lid at two spaced locations, each location being proximate to a side wall of the lid.
5. A garbage can assembly as claimed in claim 2 in which the can includes first and second handles secured at diametrically opposite portions on said side wall in proximity to the open top,  
wherein the tether straps which are secured to the can are secured via loops to the handles.
6. A garbage can assembly as claimed in claim 5 wherein said first and second handles are pivotally secured at diametrically opposite positions on the side wall.
7. A garbage can assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein said male or female snap buckles which are secured to the can are secured to the respective handles by tether straps comprising a continuous loop of fixed length.
8. A garbage can assembly as claimed in claim 2 wherein male or female snap buckles which are coupled to the lid have the end of the tethering strap received therein in a looped arrangement whereby the tether strap extends through a locking loop arrangement on the buckle and back towards the lid presenting an open end of the tether strap, such that on a person manually pulling on the open end of the tether strap draws the male or female buckle carried thereon towards a center of the lid, thus tensioning the tensioning strap when the snap lock mechanism is coupled.
9. A garbage can assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which the tethering straps are secured to the lid via threaded fasteners extending through the lid.